

The Mint of the United States,

AT

PHILADELPHIA, PENN.,

Assay Department, April 20, 1886

Sir:

Our first assays (by cuttings) of Lot 98, Kansas Bars, were low and somewhat irregular.

Thinking that the bars might not be homogeneous and the samples consequently untrue, and also forming in these results a probable cause of complaint, I ordered the whole lot to ~~be~~ melted.

You will observe that this was done, not because the bars were rough or objectionable, but solely for the purpose of obtaining a trustworthy sample.

The result of it all was that our first finenesses were confirmed, and the bars proved to be 995 to 995½ as reported.

It is not unusual for the assays of this company's bars to run below the stamp, though the deficiency in this case so far exceeded our expectations as to lead to the course which we pursued.

Very Respy
Jacob B. Eckfeldt
Assayr

Wm. D. Mc Coy
Supt. Mints

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 145

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At Philadelphia, Penn.,
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Hon. Danl. M. Fox
Supt.